

What is Claimed Is:

1. A toothbrush, wherein [the tufting holes] formed in [the tufting part] are almost elliptic or almost rectangular and the tufting holes are inclined toward [the tufting surface].

2. A toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein [the lengthwise direction] of the tufting holes is along [the direction] of handle length.

3. A toothbrush according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein there is at least one group of tufting holes that form a pair inclined to [the inside]

4. A toothbrush according to ^{Claim 1 or Claim 2} ~~any 1 of Claims 1 through 3~~, wherein inclination in a vertical direction of inclined tufting holes is 2 to 10°.

5. A toothbrush according to ^{Claim 1 or 2} ~~any 1 of Claims 1 through 4~~, where [the monofilaments] that form [the tufts] to be implanted in the tufting holes have a rectangular cross section, [the direction] of [the long side] of this cross section being along the lengthwise direction of the tufting holes.

6. A toothbrush according to ^{Claim 1 or Claim 2} ~~any 1 of Claims 1 through 5~~, wherein there is a plurality of converging blocks of a pair of ^{two} ~~2~~ tufts facing and supporting one another.

7. A toothbrush according to ~~any 1 of claims 1~~ ^{Claim 1 or Claim 2} through 6, wherein the end portion of each tuft that has been implanted is worked into a V-shape.

8. A toothbrush according to Claim 6 or 7, wherein converging blocks are at least at the front or the back in the lengthwise direction of the tufting base.

9. A toothbrush according to ~~any 1 of claims 6~~ ^{Claim 6} through 8, wherein the next row of converging blocks is positioned behind the space that is formed between converging blocks in the front row in the direction of handle length.

10. A toothbrush according to ~~any 1 of Claims 1~~ ^{Claim 1 or Claim 2} through 9, wherein an anchor that is driven into the tufting base in the folded part of a tuft that has been folded in the center in its lengthwise direction is driven into the tufting hole so that it is almost parallel to the long side or the short side of the tufting hole and the opening surface area of the tufting hole is divided into two equal parts in order to embed and support the said tufts in the tufting hole.

11. A toothbrush according to ~~any 1 of Claims 1~~ ^{Claim 1 or Claim 2} through 10, wherein the said anchor is positioned $\pm 10^\circ$ with respect to the center line along the lengthwise direction of the said tufting hole.

12. A toothbrush according to Claim 11, wherein the centers of the tufting holes are not lined up on one straight line in the direction of handle length.

13. A toothbrush according to ^{claim 1 or claim 2} ~~any 1 of claims 1 through 12~~, wherein tufting holes account for 10 to 30 mm in the direction of handle length and 5 to 15 mm in the direction of handle width.

14. A toothbrush according to ^{claim 1 or claim 2} ~~any 1 of claims 1 through 13~~, wherein the tufting holes are almost rectangular and the short side of these almost rectangular tufting holes has dimensions of 0.8 to 2.0 mm, while the long side has dimensions of 1.5 to 5.0 mm.

15. A toothbrush according to ^{claim 2} ~~any 1 of claims 2 through 14~~, where the distance at the base between the tufts that form a pair and make up the converging blocks is 0.2 to 4.0 mm.

16. A toothbrush according to ^{claim 6} ~~any 1 of claims 6 through 15~~, wherein there are 5 rows of tufts in the lengthwise direction of the tufting base, with Rows 1 and 5 forming one converging block in the center in the direction of width of the tufting base, Rows 2 and 4 forming 2 converging blocks on either side sandwiching the center in the direction of width of the tufting base, and Row 3 forming one converging block at the center in the direction of width of the converging block, and there is 1 independent tuft, each inclined so that it is in the same

direction as the tufts that form the said converging
blocks, but its end portion does not touch the converging
blocks, to the outside of the said converging blocks.